

ADAIR COUNTY EXTENSION AG NEWS

Volume 2 Issue 8

August 2008

**NEELY -KINYON FIELD DAY
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**

4:00 Wagon Tours

- Update on LTAR Plots
- Finishing Cattle on Grass
- Soybean Aphid Control
- Alternative Forage Crops
- Organic Corn Variety Plots

5:00 Last Wagon leaves

4:00 - 7:00 Displays @ Machine Shed

6:00 Complimentary Supper

For more information contact
SW Area Extension office 712-769-2600

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Exploring Opportunities for Cattle Feeding in SW

Learn more about feeding cattle opportunities in southwest Iowa on **Tuesday, September 2**, at the ISU Armstrong Research Farm near Lewis. The program starts at 10:00 a.m. with the following speakers; Dave Nichols, Adair County beef seedstock producer, "The Iowa Advantage for Cattle Feeding"; Joe Lally, ISU program specialist, Heartland Regional Water Coordination Initiative nutrient specialist, "Getting the most from your beef manure nutrients – legal, environmental and economic considerations"; Dr. John Lawrence, ISU Ag Economist and director of the Iowa Beef Center, "Economics of beef production in different facilities with current

feed costs"; and Jeff Godwin, NRCS Area Engineer "NRCS specifications for livestock facilities and financial assistance through EQIP and low interest loans".

A complimentary grilled rib eye sandwich lunch will be provided by Adair and Cass County Farm Bureau, Adair County Cattleman and the Cass County Beef Producers. After lunch Shawn Shouse, ISU Extension Ag Engineer, will lead a tour of bedded hoop confinement and open lot facilities for beef fin-

ishing at the ISU Armstrong Research Farm. The meeting concludes at 2:00 p.m.

There is no charge to attend but to insure an accurate meal count,

please rsvp by Thursday, August 28. To register contact Kathy Rohrig at Adair County Extension 641-743-8412 or krohrig@iastate.edu



Meeting sponsors include Adair County Soil & Water Conservation District, ISU Extension – SW Area, Adair & Cass County, and the Iowa Beef Center.

COOL webcast August 25

In light of mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL) taking effect Sept. 30, 2008, Iowa State livestock experts are coming together to help producers understand how they will be affected. Iowa Beef Center (IBC) Director John Lawrence, along with several other Iowa State livestock

experts, will be speaking at a COOL webcast held Monday, August 25, 2008, at 7 p.m at the Madison County Extension Office in Winterset

The program will also feature Iowa Pork Industry Center's John Mabry. He will update producers on cattle, hog, and corn market forecasts.

To sign up, contact Matt Deppe, Madison Co Extension Director at 515-462-1001 or mdeppe@iastate.edu

Late Summer Seeding of Forage Crops by Stephen K. Barnhart

Late summer can be an excellent time to establish forage crops, provided there is sufficient moisture for germination and good seedling growth. It is also a good time to seed in bare or thin spots in forage stands established this spring. The following steps will improve the chances for successful forage stand establishment in late summer.

1. Plan-Ahead Steps:

- Test soils and apply needed, corrective lime and/or fertilizer during previous cropping seasons; corrective fertilizer can be incorporated during forage seedbed preparation.
- Begin to control problem perennial weeds a year or more ahead of seeding.
- Be careful with herbicide selection in crops grown in the field before the forage seeding because some may have residual soil activity and will harm new forage seedlings if proper waiting periods are not observed. Read the labels for details.

2. This is late-summer seeding, **not** fall seeding! Seed as early as possible. Seedlings require 6 to 8 weeks of growth after emergence to have adequate vigor to survive the winter. **Seed by August 10** in the northern third of Iowa, by August 20 in central parts of the state, and by **September 1 in southern Iowa**. Forage legumes such as red clover and alfalfa can be seeded up to the dates listed above if moisture is present. Slow establishing species like birdsfoot trefoil or reed canarygrass should be planted in early August. Most forage grasses such as Ky bluegrass, smooth bromegrass orchardgrass, tall

fescue, and timothy can be seeded up to 2 weeks later than the dates listed above. Don't plant warm-season prairie grasses as a late-summer seeding. Keep in mind that the above dates assume sufficient moisture to establish the crop. Planting later than the dates mentioned above is sometimes successful depending on fall and winter weather patterns, but there is increased risk of failure and reduced yield potential for the stand as planting is delayed. A good rule of thumb for alfalfa is to have 6-8" of growth before a killing frost.

3. Prepare a firm seedbed if using tillage. Loose seedbeds dry out very quickly. Deep tillage should be completed several weeks ahead of seeding so rains can settle the soil before final seedbed preparation. A cultipacker or roller is an excellent last-pass tillage tool. The soil should be firm enough for a footprint to sink no deeper than 3/8 to 0.5 inch.

4. Late-summer pasture interseeding and no-till forage seeding is an excellent way to conserve moisture, provided weeds are controlled prior to seeding. Remove all straw after small grain harvest. Any remaining stubble should either be left standing, or clipped and removed. Do not leave clipped stubble in fields as it forms a dense mat that prevents good emergence.

5. Don't plant alfalfa immediately after older established alfalfa. Autotoxic compounds are released by old alfalfa plants that inhibit growth and productivity of new alfalfa seedlings. It is best to rotate to another crop for a year or more before going back to alfalfa; however, thickening up seedlings within 12 to 15 months of the original planting date considered to be a low-risk

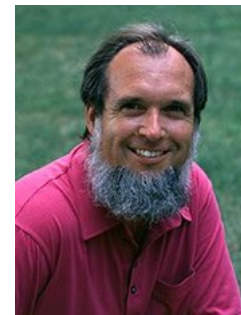
practice because autotoxicity concerns are greatest with older alfalfa fields.

6. Seed when soil moisture is adequate or a good rain system is in the forecast. There is a higher risk of seedling failure when planting seeds into dry soil, as there may be just enough moisture to germinate the seed but not enough for seedling establishment.

7. Plant seed shallow and in firm contact with the soil. Carefully check seeding depth, especially when no-tilling. Drills with press wheels usually provide the greatest success in the summer. Broadcasting seed on the surface without good soil coverage and without firm packing is usually a recipe for failure in the summer.

8. Use high quality seed of known varieties. Cheap seed often results in big disappointments and shorter stand life. Make sure legume seed has fresh inoculum of the proper rhizobium.

9. Do not harvest new summer seedings this fall.



Stephen K. Barnhart,
Extension Forage
Agronomist, may be con-
tacted at 515-294-7835 or
sbarnhar@iastate.edu

Farm Lease Agreements

September 1 is the deadline for either tenant or landowner to notify the other party of their intent to terminate the lease. Lease agreements begin on March 1st and end on the last day of February, but notice of termination must be completed by September 1, according to Iowa law.

Tim Eggers, ISU Field Ag Economist, will be at the Adair County Extension office for individual consultations on **Monday, August 25** to help tenants or landowners (or both) evaluate lease agreements. To make an appointment for 1/2 hour, call Angie at 641-743-8412 by Friday August 22.

Several forms are available in our office regarding lease agreements - FM 1874 Iowa Cash Rent Lease Form, Cash Rental Rates survey and Notice of Farm Tenancy. These are free of charge. The July 2008 Farm Leasing Arrangements handbook is available at our office for \$5.00 or at the FECCI, Farm Income Current Income website <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/feci/Leasing/lmb708.pdf>

For more information on lease agreements contact Tim Eggers, ISU Field Ag Economist at 712-542-5171 or tegggers@iastate.edu

Extension Council Member Nominations Due August 27

Adair County Extension would like to thank Roger Jensen and Lori Nelson for their years of service on Extension Council. Both Jensen and Nelson have chosen not to seek re-election to the Extension Council in this fall's general election. Anyone who would like to be on the ballot to run for one of four at-large seats on the Council needs to have their papers filed with the Adair County Auditor by Wednesday, August 27.

Judy Wedemeyer and Karen Schulteis will be seeking re-election in the November 4 general election.

If you have questions about the duties of the Extension Council please contact Deb Hall, Adair County Extension Education Director, 641-743-8412, debhall@iastate.edu

Two Soybean Aphid Field Resources Now Available

Knowing how to manage and "speed scout" soybean aphids, just got easier, thanks to two new pocket-sized publications authored by Iowa State University Extension entomologists Marlin Rice and Matt O'Neal.

The companion soybean aphid publications are right off the press and available from ISU Extension. One is a spiral-bound "Soybean Aphid Management field guide for 2008," extension

publication number CSI 11. The 43-page pocket guide is focused on management of soybean aphid in Iowa. The guide is a handy reference to the history, identification, development and management strategies for this relatively new insect pest for Iowa.

The second publication, "Speed Scouting—Soybean Aphids" CSI 15 is a double-sided card useful for field-by-field evaluation of soybean

aphid populations. It uses the speed scouting technique that was recently developed by entomologists at the University of Minnesota.

All three publications were produced and funded for no-cost distribution with funding provided by the Iowa Soybean Association.

Both CSI 11 & CSI 15 are available at the Adair County Extension office.



Providing Opportunities for Iowa's Future

Visit the Farm Progress Show Aug. 26-28 to see examples of how Iowa State is "Providing Opportunities for Iowa's Future." About 30 displays in the Iowa State exhibit will showcase research and programs offered by ISU Extension and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The displays cover the bioeconomy, food and human health, rural communities, economic development, the next generation of Iowans and ISU student recruitment. Check out Iowa State's eight lots of exhibit space, including a 6,000 square foot hoop building and outdoor exhibit area at the show site in Boone.

The Iowa Learning Farm will feature strip-tillage at this year's Farm Progress Show. 'Not your father's Tillage' exhibit will include an area of strip-tilled ground and a strip-till machine. ISU Extension experts and Iowa farmers currently practicing strip-tillage will be on-hand for discussion about this conservation practice.

AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Beef Feedlot Tour 9:30-2 Lucas & Decatur Counties
3	4 Cow Herd Risk Management meeting, Winterset 6-9:30 pm	5 Women Landowners Meeting 8:30 -1:30 Adair Co. Fitness Center, Greenfield Beef Performance Results 6:30 pm FG* 4-	6 High Tunnel Field Day Armstrong Farm, Lewis 5pm	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 IDALS Pesticide Testing-10-2, E.O.	19	20 Neely-Kinyon Field Day 4-8 pm	21	22 Register for Master Gardener Classes \$125	23
24 31	25 Grazing Workshops Kellerton COOL Webcast, Winterset Extension Council Mtg- 7:30 p.m., E.O.	26	27 Extension Council Nominations due	28 Registration deadline for September 2 Beef Meeting Farm Progress Show Boone	29	30

SEPTEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day - Office Closed	2 Exploring Cattle Feeding Options in SW Iowa - 10-2 Armstrong Research Farm, Lewis	3	4 Adair County Corn & Soybean Plot Tour 5pm Orient	5	6 Clover Kids- 10:00 a.m.-E.O.
7 Youth Council - 4:00 p.m., E.O.	8 Master Gardener Orientation Meeting 6:30 pm - EO*	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 IDALS Pesticide Testing-10-2, E.O.	16 Master Gardener Class 6:30-9:30 pm EO*	17	18	19	20
21	22 Extension Council Mtg-7:30 p.m., E.O.	23 Master Gardener Class 6:30-9:30 pm EO*	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Master Gardener Class 6:30-9:30 pm EO*				

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Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.

Check out our website—

www.extension.iastate.edu/adair/

Websites:

Center for Agricultural Law & Taxation
www.calt.iastate.edu
Farm Economy: Current Issues
www.extension.iastate.edu/feci
Horticulture and Home Pest News
<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews>

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Fall Courses Announced

October 1 - Roadside, Forest and Aquatic Pest Management
November 12 - Ornamental and Turfgrass Applicators
November 19 - Commercial Ag Weed, Insect and Plant Disease
For information about registration, call 641-743-8412 or email powella@iastate.edu

Wind Energy Production: legal issues & related landowner concerns

This publication is available at our office or at
<http://www.calt.iastate.edu/pubs/WindEnergyProduction.pdf>

August 2008 issue of Acreage Living Newsletter

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/acreage/>

Integrated Crop Management News weekly updates

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/>

Master Gardener Classes Start September 16

The Master Gardener program is designed for individuals that love gardening and are committed to helping others. "It's a good program that's timely and meets peoples needs" according to Daryl Nelson of Menlo, 2007 Master Gardener intern. To become a Master Gardener you must participate in a 40 hour training program offered through ISU that provides research-based information about lawn care, ornamental trees and shrubs, insects, plant diseases, soils, plant nutrition, vegetables, fruits, houseplants, garden design, annuals and perennials.

The training program will be offered by Adair County Extension this fall on every Tuesday and some Thursday nights beginning September 16 and ending October 28; classes will run from

6:30 – 9:30 p.m. A special orientation meeting is planned for September 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Adair County Extension office. Classes will be held at the Adair County Extension office, 202 South 1st Street, Suite B. There is also a Saturday field trip, October 25 or November 1, to Iowa State University.

The cost of the Master Gardener program is \$125, **registration is due Friday, August 22.** For an application form - call the Extension office 1-800-ISUE-399 or 641-743-8412, email krohrig@iastate.edu or visit the Adair County Web page at www.extension.iastate.edu/adair/ to download the application form.



Reagan Weinheimer crawls through the tunnel built by Adair County Master Gardeners at the fairgrounds.